

lower cost. CO₂ can be abated for \$100 to \$200 per ton. That is less than half the price of an electric vehicle subsidy.

I support efforts to reduce carbon emissions to preserve our air, land, and water for future generations, but those efforts don't have to come at this sort of exorbitant price. You can support all energy sectors and innovation and conservation. These are not mutually exclusive.

One great example is a bill I introduced called the LEADING Act, which was signed into law last year. This legislation incentivizes the research and development of carbon capture technology for natural gas and innovation in the energy industry at large. That is how we can keep costs down for taxpayers and maintain this revolution in the energy sector.

So I will continue to push back on efforts to weaken our energy independence and harm our economy in pursuit of arbitrary goals. There is simply no reason to stick taxpayers with the bill for these unnecessary policies when there are better commonsense ways to promote both innovation and conservation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume legislative session; that the Senate resume consideration of S. 1260; and that the following amendments be called up and reported by number: Wyden, 1975; Crapo, 1565; Paul, 2003; Ernst, 1507; Daines, 1787; and Lee, 1891; further, that at 4:45 p.m. today, the Senate vote in relation to the amendments in the order listed with no amendments in order to these amendments prior to the vote in relation to the amendment, with 60 affirmative votes required for adoption and 2 minutes of debate, equally divided, prior to each vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The Senate will now resume legislative session.

The Senator from Mississippi.

S. 1260

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I would like to be recognized for a moment before we proceed.

This is an important step in the consideration of the Endless Frontier Act. We have just locked in six votes for this afternoon—two important side by sides, WYDEN and CRAPO on Finance Committee matters; a Paul amendment on the National Institutes of Health funds being used in China; an Ernst amendment on the Wuhan lab; a Daines amendment on intellectual property in China; and the Lee amendment on stem cell research.

This is a great step forward; that the Senate is proceeding this afternoon to regular order, and regular order allow-

ing Senators to come forward and offer amendments that might improve the bill is helpful. It is hoped that we can do that again tomorrow and Thursday and move toward an opportunity to pass this bill.

I would point out to my colleagues—and I know the distinguished chair of the Finance Committee will agree with this. We have locked in six 15-minute votes. In fairness, really, the five subsequent votes should be 10-minute votes. We can fool around and wander in here for hours and be here until 8 or we can begin at 4:45 and resume the practice that we had for years before we quit doing regular order in this body.

If Members will hold each other accountable and if the Chair is willing to say after a certain amount of time, if a straggler is missing, that that Senator simply has missed votes, then we can do this in an orderly fashion. I have an appointment at 5:30 that I have had to cancel. Perhaps others will have to do that too.

But we are making progress on a very substantive bill about the future of this country and moving toward competing in a better way with China. And I would suggest that maybe appointments in the early afternoon might be canceled, and we can get back to quick votes and be considerate of others, realizing that some of us may miss votes if we are late. I make that suggestion, and I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for the hard work in locking in these six votes.

I yield back.

ENDLESS FRONTIER ACT—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume S. 1260, which the clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1260) to establish a new Directorate for Technology and Innovation in the National Science Foundation, to establish a regional technology hub program, to require a strategy and report on economic security, science, research, innovation, manufacturing, and job creation, to establish a critical supply chain resiliency program, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer amendment No. 1502, in the nature of a substitute.

Cantwell amendment No. 1527 (to amendment No. 1502), of a perfecting nature.

AMENDMENT NOS. 1975, 1565, 2003, 1507, 1787, AND 1891 TO AMENDMENT NO. 1502

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the following amendments will be called up and reported by number.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Washington [Ms. CANTWELL], for herself and others, proposes en bloc amendments numbered 1975, 1565, 2003, 1507, 1787, and 1891 to amendment No. 1502.

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 1975

(Purpose: To set forth trade policy, negotiating objectives, and congressional oversight requirements relating to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic)

At the end of title III of division F, add the following:

SEC. 6302. TRADE POLICY AND CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF COVID-19 RESPONSE.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is imperative to promote the development and deployment of vaccines, including to address pandemics like the pandemic relating to COVID-19 and its variants;

(2) as a developed nation with a longstanding commitment to promoting global health, innovation, access to medicine, public welfare, and security, the United States will continue to use the resources and tools at its disposal to promote the distribution of life-saving COVID-19 vaccines to other countries;

(3) President Biden should continue to work with foreign governments, multilateral institutions, nongovernmental organizations, manufacturers, and other stakeholders to quickly identify and address, through targeted and meaningful action, obstacles to ending the COVID-19 pandemic, whether those obstacles are legal, regulatory, contractual, or otherwise;

(4) in any efforts to address trade-related obstacles to ending the COVID-19 pandemic, President Biden should consider how any action would complement the whole-of-government approach of the President to ending the COVID-19 pandemic worldwide, including how any action would impact competitiveness, innovation, and the national security of the United States in the short- and long-term;

(5) the President should strive to create the most appropriate balance between access to COVID-19 vaccines and therapeutics and generating an innovative environment in the United States;

(6) the President should take into account the efforts of malign nations or entities to obtain intellectual property of United States persons through forced technology transfer, theft, or espionage, and accordingly make all efforts to protect that intellectual property from such nations or entities; and

(7) in any efforts to address trade-related obstacles to ending the COVID-19 pandemic, Congress expects timely and meaningful consultations on any negotiations and any agreements or decisions reached regarding matters of concern to members of Congress and their constituents, including issues of competitiveness, innovation, and national security.

(b) TRADE POLICIES WITH RESPECT TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—It is the policy of the United States to facilitate an effective and efficient response to the global pandemic with respect to COVID-19 by expediting access to life-saving vaccines, medicines, diagnostics, medical equipment, and personal protective equipment.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The United States Trade Representative shall pursue a timely, effective, and efficient response to the trade aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including by endeavoring to—

(A) expedite access to medicines and life-saving products through trade facilitation measures;

(B) obtain a reduction or elimination of nontariff barriers and distortions that impact the procurement of life-saving products;

(C) take action to increase access to COVID-19 vaccines globally, while avoiding providing access to intellectual property to nations or entities that seek to utilize the